

212 p11cm34
excellence even in Chaucer's time. The Company of Cutlers, incorporated in the reign of James I, took it upon them to examine & affix their marks to all Sheffield wares of good quality, with a view to the good name of the town & its great industry: but their 'occupations' gone, the great annual 'Cutlers' 'Leat' gives occasion chiefly for the display of political eloquence.

The peculiar qualities of steel, its elasticity, malleability, ductility, hardness, depends upon the introduction of carbon in certain proportions into the very substance of the iron. The best iron for the purpose is that of Danneberg in Sweden, lately made with ~~iron~~ charcoal. Few British ores yield iron sufficiently pure for the purpose. The processes employed both in the making & the manufacture of steel are excessively interesting, but our space does not allow of description of them. The Bessemer Process, now seen fully in Sir Henry Bessemer's manufactory here, exhibits one of the most extraordinary triumphs of mind over matter which our century has seen. According to the ordinary process, some twenty days are required to convert iron into steel; according to the Bessemer process, the whole is accomplished in half an hour. The steel manufactures of Sheffield fall into three classes - Cutlery, that is, edged implements for domestic & personal uses; large objects forged in steel - as steel lines for railways, &c.; & edged tools employed by workmen. Whatever may be said for ~~some~~ other ^{English} manufactures, Sheffield cutlery still bears the palm for excellence all over the world.

Sheffield, which is, after Leeds, the largest & most important town in Yorkshire, has the usual public buildings, parks, & institutions of a great town. ^{perhaps}

212 p 12 m 39 11
Caid out - in the Dutch taste introduced by William of Orange, with parks, temples, terraces, statues - perpetual surprises & happy effects. but - a more natural environment would, perhaps, have been more in character with the genius immense & impressive as they are, bringing before you, as all the reading in the world fails to do, the elaborate organization, wealth & power of the great religious houses of the Middle Ages.

While St Bernard was introducing a discipline of severe rule & strict poverty amongst the Cistercians, rumours of his doings reached certain godly Benedictines of St. Mary, York. These complained, (1132), to Archbp. Thurstan that they were constrained to dwell in the tents of Meshech. After vain attempts to reform the ungodly house to which they belonged, he removed the unhappy monks, giving them a retreat in the lonely valley of the little Ouse. Here they sheltered under the yew, - under the 'Seven Sisters' perhaps, two of which remaining, endured a sharp conflict with poverty. Then, Hugh, Dean of York, came & died amongst them, leaving them means to build, which they did, calling their Abbey 'Fontes' - a fitting name for this Yorkshire Elms where six springs still rise within the site. The building continued

Roughfont - the 12th Century, the house reached the exact proportions indicated by the ruins: wealth, in lands & stock, flowed in on these Cistercians, until according to Whitelock, the lands of Fontaines extended "for an uninterrupted space of more than 30 miles."

Roughfont, on the Ure, is chiefly interesting as the scene of the battle in which St. Thomas of Lancaster - of whom we shall hear more in connection with Pontefract - was defeated by the royal troops. His comrade in arms, the Earl of Hereford fell upon the bridge, but he was later than castle of Pontefract for execution.

Old borough preserves its name, for it contains remains of the Roman Eboracum, probably as large & important a city as York was under the Romans. Here are Roman pavement & mosaic in the college; & in the 'Museum Eboracense' in the garden of the Manor House, there is a valuable collection

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Collection of the implements of daily life in use in
this Roman city fifteen centuries ago.

Widdale.

The springs of the Widd are in Great Wherncliffe, in a region
wild & bleak as any in Yorkshire. Not far from its source,
the new-born river disappears, or nearly so, into a cavern
called the Gooden Pot, whence it emerges after half
a mile of under-ground course. Below Rately Bridge
is the most curious sight of the Widd valley, the celebrated
Drinham Crags - rocks of enormous size of
fantastic shapes crowded together on a bleak
moor in a way to suggest that Nature has been
playing some huge practical joke. The odd shapes, to
which various appropriate names have been given,
are entirely the result of weathering on rocks of
unequal hardness.

Nearly three centuries ago, the Spa was discovered
which are the reissens d'été of Harrogate. more
than 20 other springs are now known, all more
or less impregnated with sulphur, & Harrogate is
the most fashionable inland watering place of the
north; its greatest attraction is, perhaps, the fine
pure moorland air it enjoys.

On the opposite bank of the Widd, here a broad full river,
rise the ruined towers of Knaresborough Castle, on
a high cliff overlooking the town, which is, next
after Richmond, the most beautifully situated in
Yorkshire. Here is a dungeon where the murderers of
Beckett kept in hiding for a year; the King's Chamber
was one of the prisons of Richard II.; & during the
Civil War, the castle sustained a siege from the
Parliamentary forces under Lilburne. Knaresborough
has a very important corn market. The Cave of St. Giles,
in the river's bank, was the dwelling of the holy
hermit, St. Robert. Witham even King John did
honour; & has a less enviable notoriety as the scene
of the murder committed by Eugene Aram.

What

The air is uncontaminated & delicious as in
any highland straths. The river comes with a
hasty course from the high peat-moors, brown, bright
shining, bubbling, every few paces, over borders
of whitey-grey limestone, cunningly trimmed
with the darkest mosses. Every village in the
valley has ^{its} tales of disaster, wrought by the Wharfe
in flood - loss of life both of man & beast, bridges
& dwellings carried away, when, after heavy rains
the Wharfe overflows its banks, sweeps, with irresistible
force, down the sharp descent of its upper valley.
The pleasant villages - Burnesall being the loveliest
village of the dale - are scattered two or three
miles apart; each with laithes (cow-houses) in
the village street. In the Craven folk are chiefly
employed in the rearing of cattle & sheep, & the
Craven cattle are the boast of the country side.
There is hardly a patch of corn to be seen in the
upper valley, but such meadows! gay with
many coloured flowers - especially with the
big purple wild geraniums - before the grass is
cut. Some, of the brightest green. The hay harvest
is the great event of the year in the dale.

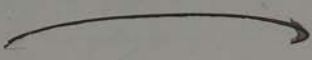
Upper Wharfedale is lovely throughout, & Rollin
Woods - "the same, only more so." There is, certainly, a
softer loveliness, but that is because the Wharfe
swift & straight until now, here winds excessively
so that, from some points of view, you may
see four or five gleaming water-lilies side by
side. Every loop of the river winds round a
green, tree-shaded meadow, dotted with cattle,
on either side of the meadow are the high fells, the
slopes

Slopes thickly wooded. Now the woods gather
up close to the river, & now they fall back, leaving
open lawns: from whatever point you look, the
beautiful ruins of the Abbey shine out - of the
greenness on the one hand, & on the other
the grey turrets of a ruined tower in the distance
nearly hidden amongst verdure. Threading
the Woods in every direction are paths - not less
than fifty miles of riding, with benches
commanding the best points of view. The Abbey,
graceful, even in decay, gives meaning to
the whole. The foundations of these ^{Abbeys} ~~Abbeys~~
houses were never to marvel at. Every lovely
dale in Yorkshire testifies to their wit - in
choosing sites, where were wood & water, cornlands
& pastures, fish for their past-dog, & beauty
to gladden their eyes, & having chosen fitly
they knew how to raise - on levels high
enough for dignity, & for security from river-
floods, Lavenborough for sheltered comfort,
edifices which, by right of fitness & beauty,
dominate the valleys that hold them.

On a far smaller scale than Fontenay,
wanting the picturesqueness in ruin of
Rushall, Bolton Abbey is distinguished
amongst the northern houses only for
beauty of situation. The shell of the Church is
nearly entire, too much so, indeed, for picturesque
effect. It exhibits two distinct styles of architecture
the twelfth century work of the original builders
who appear to have finished the Choir before
their migration from Embsay in 1154; & the fourteenth
Century

Bolton to the Canons of Embsay. Dr. Whitaker, unwilling, as usual, to sacrifice a precious tradition, suggests that the facts are probably true in the main, but refers to one of the two sons of Cecilia de Romville, the first foundress, both of whom died young. The further history of the Abbey is marked by little but the repeated ravages of the Scots, who harassed this in common with all the northern houses. Thus, after the Battle of Barnwicksburn, in 1516 & the three or four following years, they seem to have come again & again, finally, in 1520, despoiling the Abbey land & putting canons & prior to flight - a disaster which the Priory did not recover for several years.

Bolton Abbey was condemned with the greater houses in 1540: after the Dissolution it remained in the King's hands for two years, when the site & demesne together with other estates were sold to Henry, Earl of Cumberland: how these estates fell to the present owners we shall have occasion to show elsewhere.



Stanton Head, Farndale Head, & loose head, all exceeding
1400 ft. The chalk holds attains this greatest height in Wilton
Beacon, 800 feet

Some fifths of the drainage of Yorkshire falls into the
German Ocean by the Humber - the waters of its
notable river systems - the Ouse, with its tributaries,
Frost, Wharfe, Aire, with the Calder, Don & Great Ouse,
together with some of the Hull & the insignificant
streams below it. Of the remaining fifth, again,
fully one half reaches the same ocean by the
Lees, the Esk, & the little Severn. What is left - the
drainage of a fragment of the north-west corner - enters
the Irish Sea by the Ribbles & the Mersey.

The relative volume of these rivers depends upon the
average rainfall in the district each drains. Thus
the rivers of the west, where the average annual fall is
discharge much water in proportion to their drainage
area. While the Severn, draining a district whose
average annual rainfall is not more than 24
inches, discharges comparatively little water, though it
has the largest drainage area of any Yorkshire river. There
is a gradual increase in the amount of rainfall, from
an annual average of 20 inches on the eastern lowlands, to 50 in the western
highlands.

The district about the lower courses of the Don & the
Ouse is an immense peat-swamp, extending into
Lincolnshire. The Ouse is navigable for steamboats
as far as Selby, & from the beginning of the Humber
that is, from the confluence of the Ouse & Trent, to the sea
is forty miles. At its widest part, the estuary is 5
miles across; & three miles wide at Hull, where it receives
the river Hull. Shifting sandbanks make the navigation
of the Humber difficult.

Camden pronounces that, the best way to see Yorkshire
is to follow up its several river valleys; & indeed it is
only by exploring the dales that you get the full beauty of
Yorkshire, & at the same time, cover the sites of historical
& archaeological interest, & the seats of the great modern
industries

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industries. We have not space to pass in review the whole of Yorkshire, valley by valley, but the lovely dells of the West-Riding demand our particular attention.

The Dales of the West-Riding. Wensleydale.

Wensleydale, the valley of the Ure, falls within the North-Riding but in the lap of the river which skirts the West-Riding we have two or three centres of interest - Ripon, Fountains Abbey, Boroughbridge, & Aldbrough - at the confluence of the Ure & Ure. Ripon, which has lately made boast of its anniversary by a millenary celebration, is a pleasant - when city - whose great interest is the Cathedral. Its past - that, while the transepts are choicer, the nave is wider than those of most English Cathedrals, combined with the sombre hue of the stone & the sparsity of ornament, give an air of height & severity of outline, more common in Scotch than in English Cathedral Churches. This cathedral was not built in a day: the work of eight distinct architectural periods, covering not less than eight centuries, is to be traced in its walls. Thus we have the crypt called St. Wilfrid's Breddle, which was probably built by St. Wilfrid himself in the latter half of the seventh century; the Norman Chapter-house, remains of the Transitional Church built by Archbishop Roger; the beautiful early English west front of Ralph Gray; the Decorated bays in the choir, & lastly, the Perpendicular nave, which, early in the sixteenth century replaced that of Ralph. A Church which carries in its structure evidences speak of the great waves of passion which have given character to ecclesiastical architecture - each such wave being an expression of some phase of religious feeling - is itself a monument of profound interest: but the monuments it contains are not of special interest. Neither need the history of the ancient city of Ripon detain us.

A couple of miles out of Ripon are the ruins of ~~St. Mary~~ Fountains Abbey, within ~~St. Mary~~ St. Mary Royal, the seat of the Marquis of Ripon. The grounds of St. Mary Royal are beautiful (aid)

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The prettiest part of this corner of Yorkshire is the 'Valley of Godmorden' in the valley of the Calder. Here are mill chimneys, it is true; but then, the mills rise by the dries, side & pleasant old houses show themselves amongst the trees.

A walk across Longwood Edge brings you to Claxton, then over an extensive 'aeld' or old fields, where the plough is hindered by the foundations of an ancient city, probably the Roman city of Eborac.

Rp. 29.614
Not least amongst the clothing towns is Dewsbury, in the pretty valley of the Calder, with blankets, carpet & cloth factories, & shoddy mills. Here are important Co-operative Buildings, new provision is made for the amusement as well as for the material wants of the townspeople. Batley, near Dewsbury, has the largest shoddy mills, where old cloth is torn into shreds, the wool cleaned, & put through as many processes as new-wool.

The Battles of Wakefield & London.

Rp. 29.673
Wakefield, at one time a clothing town, is now a pleasant market town, with immense corn magazines & a corn exchange second only to the Fresh Lane Exchange. There is a bridge here, over the Calder, over the bridge, a little chapel, which was built by Edward IV. that prayers might be said therein for the soul of his father, because, on a spot close by the bridge, the Duke of York was slain in the famous battle of Wakefield (1460).

Queen Margaret rallying her strength for a great effort, had raised a northern army of 18,000 men, with which she marched upon Wakefield. The Duke of York set out from London to meet her with no more than from 4,000 to 5,000 men. Situated on a tree-covered hill nearly two miles from Wakefield are still to be seen some fragments of Sandal Castle, at that time a fortress belonging to Richard of York. Here he took up his quarters, to wait the arrival of his son, Edward, Earl of March, with a contingent from Wales. The Queen advanced with her troops, but failed before the castle. Then she

placed

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Then priests who are fellows of the college - the eleven
apostles, they represent; the seventy scholars &
their two masters - the seventy-two disciples; through
the great gate way they make their solemn procession
into the college, chanting ^{all the time} ~~as they go~~